

REMARKS

In response to the Restriction Requirement of December 15, 2006, claims in Group I, drawn to an electromechanical input device are elected. Furthermore, with regard to paragraph 1 of the Restriction Requirement, the species shown in Figure 3 (i.e., species 1) is provisionally selected. Claims directed to this species are claims 1-4, 8-12 and 14-16 and these claims are provisionally elected.

Slight amendment has been made in claims 1 and 15 to correct the spelling of the word "passed" (incorrectly presented as "past"). Slight amendment has also been made to claims 1-4, 8, and 15 to identify the subject matter of the claims as an electromechanical input device.

Please further note that the species are stated by the Office as being independent or distinct because they are directed to different embodiments and/or different devices; i.e., touch pad or key pad. However, it should be noted that a feature of the present invention is that electrically active areas on at least two distinct locations on the surface of a flex is disclosed and that the flex is bent so as to bring these two locations close enough together so that the electrically active areas can cooperate in producing an input signal as a response to a user's mechanical action. As such, this principle is equally applicable whether the electrically active areas cooperate as part of a touch pad, such as shown in Figure 3, or as part of a key pad, such as shown in Figure 8.

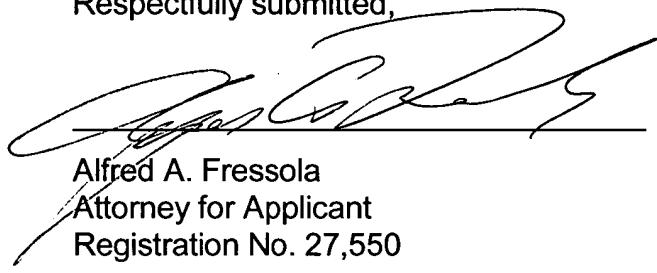
Consequently, to the extent that the restriction of the species is premised on the ground that a touch pad and key pad are different devices, the restriction is respectfully traversed.

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The application is now believed to be in condition for examination and such action is earnestly requested.

The undersigned respectfully submits that no fee is due for filing this Response. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to deposit account 23-0442 any fee deficiency required to submit this paper.

Respectfully submitted,



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